

Message Text

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45

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ARAE-00 DHA-02 SCA-01 SY-05 /058 W

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O R 231508Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE NIACT 6031

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 5920

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, PE

SUBJ: AP BUREAU CHIEF EXPULSION

REF: LIMA 5914

1. INTERIOR MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENT LATE JULY 22 ON THE
EXPULSION OF AP BUREAU CHIEF EDITH M. LEDERER IS AS FOLLOWS:
QUT ON THIS DATE IT HAS BEEN DECIDED TO EXPEL FROM THE COUNTRY
EDITH M. LEDERER OF NORTH AMERICAN NATIONALITY OF THE PRESS
AGENCY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FOR SENDING TO THE EXTERIOR
INFORMATION LACKING IN VERACITY IN RESPECT TO (JULY 20) FAP
DEMONSTRATION WITH DELIBERATE INTENT TO EXACERBATE THE
FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN PERU AND CHILE. END QTE.

2. COMMENT: ARTICLE AS FILED HERE WAS STRONG ONE. LEDERER
WAS AWARE OF EXTREME GOP SENSITIVITY ON ISSUE OF CHILE/PERU
TENSIONS BUT DECIDED TO PUBLISH ARTICLE ON BASIS PERSONAL
OBSERVATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS. SHE WAS SCHEDULED TO DEPART
PERU WITHIN TWO WEEKS FOR A NEW JOB AS SAN JUAN AP BUREAU
CHIEF AND HAD DECIDED TO WRITE SERIES OF CRITICAL ARTICLES
ABOUT PERUVIAN MILITARY GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING ONE ON VELASCO
AS AN "INVISIBLE PRESIDENT". LEDERER HAD BEEN QUESTIONED
BY PERUVIAN INVESTIGATIVE POLICE ABOUT THREE WEEKS AGO IN
RELATION TO A STORY SHE FILED ON WORSENING PERUVIAN
PETROLEUM OUTLOOK.

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3. AS FAR AS EMBASSY AWARE, LEDERER EXPELLED IN PERSONAL CAPACITY. AP OFFICE HERE SO FAR REMAINS OPEN, AND GOP COMMUNIQUE CONTAINS NO INDICATION THAT IT WILL BE CLOSED. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT WHEN REUTERS CORRESPONDENTS WERE EXPelled FOLLOWING FEBRUARY 5 RIOTS, REUTERS OFFICE WAS CLOSED AND ITS ACTIVITIES IN PERU WERE TERMINATED.

4. AMBASSADOR HAS ASKED FOR APPOINTMENT AT FOREIGN MINISTRY TO EXPRESS CONCERN WITH WHAT APPEARS TO BE ARBITRARY EXPULSION.

DEAN

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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